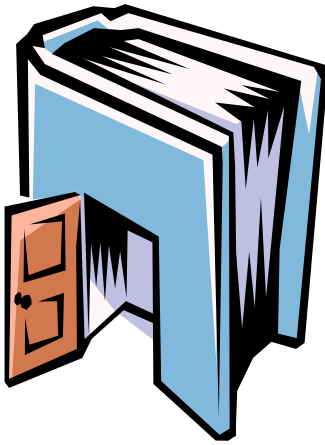


Unit 10

Other Disaster Assistance



Portal Questions

This unit discusses disaster assistance available from sources other than FEMA.

If you believe you already know this information, answer the questions below and check your answers on the next page. If you answer correctly, you may proceed to the next unit. If you miss any questions, or if you answer correctly but want to increase your knowledge, read this unit before proceeding.

1. List four Federal agencies besides FEMA that have disaster assistance programs.
2. Briefly describe the State's role in a Small Business Administration (SBA) declaration.
3. What is a fire management assistance grant? Who is eligible to receive this grant?
4. Under what conditions does U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Services Agency (FSA) assistance become available?

Portal Questions

Answer Key

5. List four Federal agencies besides FEMA that have disaster assistance programs.

Small Business Administration	Dept. of State	Dept. of Agriculture	NASA
Dept. of Labor	Dept. of Housing & Urban Development	NOAA	Dept. of Commerce
Federal Wildlife Service	Health & Human Services	Dept. of Treasury	FDIC & NCUA
Corp. for National Service	Dept. of Interior	Bureau of Indian Affairs	Environmental Protection Agency
Dept. of Defense	Social Security Administration	Federal Aviation Admin.	Dept. of Transportation
General Services Administration	Dept. of Housing and Urban Development	Community Planning and Development	Dept. of Veterans Affairs

6. Briefly describe the State's role in an SBA declaration.

- The Governor of the State in which the disaster occurred submits a written request to SBA for a physical disaster declaration by SBA (Office of Management and Budget [OMB] Approval No. 3245-0121). This request should be delivered to the SBA Disaster Area Office serving the region where the disaster occurred within 60 days of the date of the disaster.*

7. What is a fire management assistance grant? Who is eligible to receive this grant?

- Grant to provide real-time assistance for the suppression of any fire on public (non-Federal) or privately owned forest or grassland that threatens to become a major disaster. The fire management assistance grant process is the same as FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) Program, except the FEMA Regional Administrator approves only a single grant to the State.*

8. Under what conditions does U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Services Agency (FSA) assistance become available?

- Presidential declaration of a major disaster or emergency under the Robert T. Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act); designation by the Secretary of Agriculture or by administrator (physical losses only)*

Objectives

At the completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Identify non-FEMA Federal disaster assistance programs.
2. Discuss basic qualification criteria for those Federal disaster assistance programs.
3. Describe the State's role in non-Presidential declaration processes.

Topics

Other Disaster Assistance

State's Role in Non-Presidential Declarations

Learning Check

Supplemental Materials

Other Disaster Assistance

Many agencies play roles in the activation of the Federal Response Plan, and those agencies have disaster assistance programs. Some of the programs are only available when a Presidential Declaration of Disaster is made. Others provide assistance in lesser situations where the personal or business impact is great, but the event is not of a large enough scope to be considered a major disaster.

State Emergency Management Directors expressed a need for a comprehensive list of resources that the Federal Government could use in assisting disaster recovery efforts. This prompted the publication of *Disaster Assistance: A Guide for Disaster Recovery Programs*. The intended audience for the guide includes disaster workers and local, State, and Federal officials.

Disaster Assistance: A Guide for Disaster Recovery Programs

This guide summarizes 100 financial and technical assistance programs (primarily Federal programs) available to individuals, businesses, and local governments that can aid in recovering from the effects of a disaster. Not only are specific agency disaster aid programs described, but regular programs are included that could be applied to disaster recovery under special circumstances.

The guide is available as a supplemental course document. You will need it as to help complete the Learning Check below.

Printed copies of the guide can be ordered by calling the FEMA Publication Center at 1-800-480-2520. It is also available online at <http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=2152>.

Read through this guide to familiarize yourself with the wide range of programs available, and learn what role the State must play for the possible recipients to benefit from the programs.

State's Role in Non-Presidential Declarations

The State Emergency Management Agency has responsibilities in preparing the Governor's request for either a Presidential or a Secretarial Disaster Declaration. The State must gather data to document the damages to ensure that businesses and individuals can receive the assistance needed. The type of information that is needed often parallels what FEMA would request in regard to a Presidential Declaration.



To obtain the necessary information on Secretarial or SBA disaster declarations, contact your USDA or SBA area representative.

USDA Secretarial Disaster Designations

At the request of a State Governor or Indian Tribal Council, the Secretary of Agriculture can designate counties as disaster areas and provide emergency loan assistance for physical and production losses in those and contiguous counties.

Certain SBA disaster assistance is also available to qualifying applicants under a Secretarial designation.

SBA Disaster Declarations

For further information on SBA disaster declarations, 13 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §123.3, which explains how disaster declarations are made, is presented in the Supplemental Materials section for this unit.

Unit 10 Learning Check



Use the attached *Disaster Assistance: A Guide to Recovery Programs* to find answers to the following questions.

1. Which Federal agency provides assistance for beach and shore erosion? What are the cost-share requirements?
2. What agency provides AmeriCorps assistance following a disaster? Who is eligible to receive this assistance?
3. What agency provides aid for the repair of federally-funded roads? What are the cost-share requirements?
4. What agency provides assistance to reduce or eliminate illness, disability, and death resulting from exposure of the public and workers to toxic substances at spill and waste disposal sites? Who can receive this assistance?

Please see Appendix A, page A.16, to check your answers.

Supplemental Materials

SBA: How are disaster declarations made? 13 CFR 123.3

- (a) Disaster declarations are issued in four ways that make SBA disaster loans possible:
- (1) The President declares a major disaster and authorizes Federal assistance, including individual assistance (temporary housing and individual and family grant assistance).
 - (2) SBA makes a physical disaster declaration, based on the occurrence of at least a minimum amount of physical damage to buildings, machinery, equipment, inventory, homes, and other property. Such damage usually must meet the following tests:
 - (i) In any county or other smaller political subdivision of a State or U.S. possession, at least 25 homes or 25 businesses, or a combination of at least 25 homes, businesses, or other eligible institutions, each sustain uninsured losses of 40 percent or more of the estimated fair replacement value or pre-disaster fair market value of the damaged property, whichever is lower; or
 - (ii) In any such political subdivision, at least three businesses each sustain uninsured losses of 40 percent or more of the estimated fair replacement value or pre-disaster fair market value of the damaged property, whichever is lower, and, as a direct result of such physical damage, 25 percent or more of the work force in their community would be unemployed for at least 90 days; and
 - (iii) The Governor of the State in which the disaster occurred submits a written request to SBA for a physical disaster declaration by SBA (OMB Approval No. 3245-0121). This request should be delivered to the SBA Disaster Area Office serving the region where the disaster occurred within 60 days of the date of the disaster.
 - (3) SBA makes an economic injury disaster declaration in response to a determination of a natural disaster by the Secretary of Agriculture.

- (4) SBA makes an economic injury declaration in reliance on a State certification that at least five small business concerns in a disaster area have suffered substantial economic injury as a result of the disaster and are in need of financial assistance not otherwise available on reasonable terms. The State certification must be signed by the Governor, must specify the county or counties or other political subdivisions in which the disaster occurred, and must be delivered (with supporting documentation) to the servicing SBA Disaster Area Office within 120 days of the disaster occurrence. The Administrator may, in a case of undue hardship, accept such request after 120 days have expired.
- (b) SBA publishes notice of any disaster declaration in the Federal Register. The published notice will identify the kinds of assistance available, the date and nature of the disaster, and the deadline and location for filing loan applications. In addition, SBA will use the local media to inform potential loan applicants where to obtain loan applications and otherwise to assist victims in applying for disaster loans. SBA will accept applications after the announced deadline only when SBA determines that the late filing resulted from substantial causes beyond the control of the applicant.